

# NEWSLETTER

## READINESS AND PREPARATORY SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR RWANDA ENGAGEMENT WITH THE GCF

October - December 2021



### MAIN OBJECTIVE

Strengthening Rwanda's capacity to access GCF Funds through the assessment of readiness needs, updating country programme, capacitating national stakeholders and renewal of DAE accreditation

### CONTENT

#### TOPIC 1

Rwanda experience and steps taken in climate finance

#### TOPIC 2

Stakeholder engagement during the scoping workshop of the readiness needs assessment

#### TOPIC 3

Rwanda Started the Process of Updating the Country programme and assessing the readiness needs





*Photo: Stakeholders at the scoping workshop session on GCF Readiness Needs Assessment*

## Foreword

### DEAR READER & STAKEHOLDER

This is the second quarter newsletter of the GCF Readiness Support Programme in Rwanda. Despite the covid-19 situation, we got opportunities to meet with the stakeholders in physical workshops and refresher training.

In this newsletter, we summarize important achievements of the second quarter of the project implementation. Through the workshops conducted, we learnt that, we have gaps and challenges in fund mobilization, project proposal development and private sector engagement in that process.

As a result from the training workshop, the stakeholders were impressed by the refresher training and the consensus built. In addition, through consultations, stakeholders proposed potential projects that can be further developed for submission.

Kindly check our REMA website (<https://www.rema.gov.rw>) and Rwanda climate change portal (<https://climatechange.gov.rw>) to have further information. For getting updated information, follow us on social media or contact us directly for more information.

*Wish you a Happy New Year, 2022!*



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Photos: Green activities in Rwanda, from left to right: 1. Radical terraces in Gicumbi, implemented by Green Gicumbi Project 2. Nyandungu eco-tourism park, a project funded by FONERWA and other development partners, 3. Ampasand e-moto, and 4. solar power on Jali mountain

Understanding and having a good intention to address climate change is not sufficient without considering the finance required. Climate finance has been a concern and a point of discussion in many Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

A basic milestone has been reached in 2009 at the fifth Conference of Parties in Copenhagen. In the agreement, developed countries pledged 30 billion dollars between 2010 and 2012 for developing countries to carry out mitigation and adaptation activities and 10 billion dollars per year until 2020. Since then, the fund organization to channel that money have been established. To mention some, there is the Green Climate Fund, Special Climate Change Fund, Least Developed Country Fund, etc

Particularly, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) was set up by the UNFCCC in 2010, it is the world's largest fund devoted to helping developing countries reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impact of climate change, paying particular attention to the needs of the most vulnerable countries. The GCF plays an essential role in compliance with the Paris Agreement, channelling climate finance to developing countries.

In this line, Rwanda has made a plan of climate finance needed through its Nationally Determined Contribution submitted in May 2020. Through the NDC, Rwanda need USD 11 Billion for implementing both mitigation and adaptation actions.



Rwanda need USD 5.3 Billions by 2030 to implement the mitigation actions of reducing 38% of its greenhouse gas emissions



Rwanda need USD 5.7 Billions by 2030 to implement its adaptation actions

There are a variety of institutions in Rwanda that may access and have accessed climate finance for different purposes. There is Ministry of Environment which works as the National Implementing Entity for the Adaptation Fund and REMA which has been accredited as the Nationally Designated Authority by the Green Climate Fund.

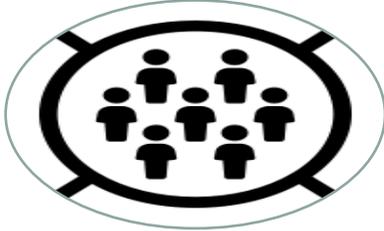
There is also, Rwanda's National Fund (FONERWA) for the Environment and Climate Change, which works as the country's main climate finance vehicle. Funds may be disbursed to public or private initiatives and institutions such as ministries, civil society organisations, communities or the private sector and calls for proposals are lodged every six months.



## Key steps taken by Rwanda in accessing climate finance

Rwanda has enabled a good environment, where climate finance can flow to the government institutions and private sectors, the following are the key steps taken

### 1. Institutional capacities for access



*A clear path has been set in Rwanda to mobilize and access climate finance through the establishment of the Rwanda Green Fund (FONERWA) which facilitates access, mobilisation, management, and disbursement of various sources of climate finance.*

### 2. Direct Access Entity in place



*The Ministry of Environment in Rwanda is the Direct Access Entity for GCF whereby under the direct access modality, Rwanda institutions access, implements, and manages funds without having to rely on the intermediary role of an international, multilateral or bilateral entity (i.e. indirect access) but directly, via the Ministry of Environment.*

### 3. Clear goal, policies and strategy



*Climate change is at the heart of plan, goal, policy and strategy in Rwanda. Guided by the environment and climate change policy gives a clear goal where climate finance can bring solutions. This is also highlighted in the Nationally Determined Contribution, whereby the fund required to reach the target is 11 Billion USD for both climate change mitigation and adaptation actions by 2030.*

### 4. MRV of climate finance flows and uses



*The Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) for climate finance indicate that the Ministry of finance and economic planning (MINICOFIN) is the leading institution with regard to climate finance, while the Rwanda Green Fund (FONERWA) leads the technical work on climate finance indicators.*





Photo: Stakeholders at the scoping workshop session on GCF Readiness Needs Assessment

On 17th of December, 2021, a scoping needs assessment workshop was conducted by NDA to consult relevant stakeholders and collect information on readiness needs for support. The main aim was to exchange on existing gaps and needed capacity and some key barriers that will be addressed include: the limited knowledge on the country's readiness needs, limited engagement with GCF, limited sector representation in the NCT, low stakeholder awareness on GCF opportunities, limited coordination among governmental and non-governmental organisations the lack of private sector engagement strategy.

The second objective was to decide together on what to prioritize for GCF readiness support in the coming 3 years.

During the readiness needs assessment scoping workshop, various ideas were collected from the stakeholders on different readiness needs. Using interactive and open discussions, the consultant hired to conduct the readiness needs assessment and update the country programme gathered all identified needs.

Some of the readiness needs identified were; limited knowledge in GCF funding, lack of skills in GCF concept notes and proposal writing and Increase stakeholders' access to information on GCF funding, capacity building of local experts in GCF concept notes and proposal writing among others.



*“In his opening remarks, Mr Faustin Munyazikwiye emphasized on the importance of conducting the readiness needs assessment, in line of supporting the country to advance in terms of engagement with the GCF”*

Photo: Faustin Munyazikwiye, Deputy Director General of REMA giving the opening remarks



Photo: Stakeholders during discussion in plenary session of the workshop

The participants were presented about the overview of GCF readiness programme and the GCF readiness support received by Rwanda so far.

The participants were explained about the Readiness Programme supports in which the countries receive to strengthen their capacity to use climate finance well, and in particular to prepare to access the Green Climate Fund.

An important pillar is supporting national climate finance institutions in their coordination work and in gaining accreditation under GCF’s direct access modality.

It was explained by the consultant that, this programme provides strategic and conceptual support in developing national climate strategies and policy packages for ambitious, climateresilient low-carbon development paths and the global exchange of experiences.



Photo: Participants following the presentation at the workshop

Work in each country is based on an initial assessment of challenges and barriers in getting ready to access the GCF, and this is was the aim of this scoping workshop.



Following this session, the participants explained on the next steps and asked for full participation in the future workshops as their support is needed in order to come up with bankable projects and be able to access GCF funding.

### Reflections from NDA



**Marie Dalie DUKUZE**  
*Climate finance Specialist*

*This readiness programme will be a cornerstone in buiding the baseline for engaging the private sector in developing the climate related projects to be funded*



**Dr Eliab Muhawenimana**  
*Technical Advisor*

*This is a key path for determining our gaps, and the needs and it will help us to be ready in addressing them*



**David UKWISHAKA**  
*Greenhouse Gas inventory Officer*

*This project is a quick win to engage various stakeholders in developing the country programme, and the private sector fund mobilization strategy*





*Photo: Stakeholders from various government institutions, NGOs, Private sectors during the workshop*

In 2016, Rwanda officially launched the country programme and strategic framework. Due to changes made in policies and strategies of the country, the need for updating the country programme was presented.

The main objective of updating the country program and strategic framework for engagement with the GCF was for aligning it with updated country strategies and more precisely articulate a clear approach for Rwanda to access the Fund, by identifying projects and programmes that will support paradigm shift in the areas that will have the greatest climate impact.

In this context, on 20th and 21st December 2021, the NDA conducted an inception workshop attended by stakeholders from public institutions, civil society organization and private sector federation members.

The new Readiness Programme will be implemented over the next 18months focusing on 2 main results: Readiness Needs Assessment Report for the next 5years and Updated Country Programme & Strategic Framework for National Engagement with GCF.

It is expected that this Readiness Programme will support training sessions on engagement with GCF, meetings with key stakeholders and workshops to allow capacity building of the stakeholders in accessing the GCF financial support.

Before the end of this Readiness Programme, a new Readiness Proposal will be developed based on identified needs and submitted to GCF for funding. GCF allocates \$1 M per year per country for activities eligible under the Readiness Support Programme

During the workshop, information on readiness needs for support and project ideas to be included in the updated country programme were collected; some of the project ideas were;

- National education programme on waste management,
- Integrated waste management plant for solid and liquid wastes across all districts,
- Provision of social houses towards informal settlements upgrading for low income communities, and
- Artificial intelligence for smart waste management optimization to promote social accountability and smart cities among others.

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